

Understanding KRS 157.360

When updating the staffing allocation formula, boards of education must adhere to guidelines in KRS 157.360(4)(a) regarding a staffing ratio of 31:1 in grades 7-12. Once the base level funding language is added into the staffing allocation formula, it may become confusing. KRS 157.360 (4)(b) states “ ... class size loads for middle and secondary school classroom teachers shall not exceed the equivalent of one hundred fifty (150) pupil hours per day.”

This means that each classroom teacher who is allocated to grades 7-12 cannot have more than 150 per-pupil hours.

When this statute was enacted, most secondary schools operated on a six-period day. Scheduling concepts such as alternative models and block schedules were not factored into legislation. One-hundred fifty per pupil hours of instruction during a six-hour school day would yield a ratio of 25:1 if the classroom teacher taught six periods.

Please note that school councils are not bound by these requirements once the allocations are received by the school.

Our new online staffing allocation tool can assist you with understanding this process and help you determine whether your district is staffing at the proper levels in grades 7-12.

If you have questions, please contact [Sharma Aitken](#) by e-mail or at (502) 564-3791.